

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method for resolving host names on a network, comprising:
 - receiving at a modem a host name query from a client computer;
 - ~~simultaneously~~ transmitting said host name query from said modem to a plurality of Domain Name System (DNS) servers; and
 - returning ~~a response~~ a single address to said client computer from said modem, where said ~~response~~ single address is based on said host name query and any responses received from said DNS servers.
2. (Currently Amended) The computer implemented method of claim 1, wherein said return further comprises:
 - acquiring ~~at least one address~~ a plurality of addresses associated with said host name query, from said DNS servers;
 - applying a policy to eliminate all but one of said addresses; and
 - returning said address to said client computer, such that said client can send a request for content to said address.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Currently Amended) ~~The A computer implemented method of claim 3 wherein said eliminating comprises:~~ for resolving host names on network, comprising:
 - receiving at a modem a host name query from a client computer;
 - transmitting said host name query from said modem to a plurality of Domain Name System (DNS) servers;
 - acquiring at least one address associated with said host name query, from said DNS servers;
 - determining that a plurality of addresses was acquired from said DNS servers;
 - eliminating all but one of said address by rejecting all but the most recent address; and
 - returning said address to said client computer, such that said client can send a request for content to said address.

5. (Currently Amended)) ~~The A computer implemented method of claim 3 wherein said eliminating comprises, for resolving host names on network,~~
comprising:

receiving at a modem a host name query from a client computer;

transmitting said host name query from said modem to a plurality of

Domain Name System (DNS) servers;

acquiring at least one address associated with said host name query,
from said DNS servers;

determining that a plurality of addresses was acquired from said DNS
servers;

eliminating all but one of said address by rejecting all addresses not
provided by a service provider DNS server; and

returning said address to said client computer, such that said client
can send a request for content to said address.

6. (Original) The computer implemented method of claim 1, wherein said
returning further comprises:

determining that a host has not been located by said DNS
servers;

performing a search using said host name query as a search
string; and

transmitting a results address of where results of said search
are located, to said client computer.

7. (Original) The computer implemented method of claim 6, wherein said
performing further comprises sending said host name query as a search
string to a search engine.

8. (Original) The computer implemented method of claim 7, wherein said
sending further comprises sending said host name query as a search string to a
search engine selected by a service provider.

9. (Original) The computer implemented method of claim 7, wherein said
sending step further comprises sending said host name query as a search string to a
search engine selected by a system administrator.

10. (Currently Amended) The computer implemented method of claim 1, wherein prior to transmitting said host name query, said returning step further comprising
comprises:
searching a cache for an address associated with said host
name query; and
if located, returning a located address to said client, such that said
client computer can send a request for content to said address.
11. (Currently Amended) The computer implemented method of claim 1, wherein prior to transmitting said host name query, said returning step further
comprising comprises:
searching a cache based on said host name query; and
returning if cached content associated with said host name query is
located, returning said cached content to said client computer, such that said
client can display said content.
12. (Original) The computer implemented method of claim 1, wherein said
modem is coupled to a VPN (Virtual Private Network), and at least one of said
plurality of DNS servers forms part of the VPN.
13. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for resolving host names
on a Virtual Private Network (VPN), the computer program product comprising a
computer readable storage and a computer program embedded therein, the
computer program comprising:
instructions for receiving a host name query from a client
computer;
instructions for ~~simultaneously~~ transmitting said host name
query to a plurality of Domain Name System (DNS) servers; and
Instructions for returning a ~~response~~ a single address to said client
computer, where said ~~response~~ single address is based on said host name
query and any responses received from said DNS servers.
14. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein
said instructions for returning further comprise:
Instructions for acquiring at least one address associated with
said host name query, from said DNS servers;

instructions for determining that a plurality of addresses was acquired from said DNS servers;

Instructions for eliminating all but one of said addresses; and

Instructions for returning said address to said client computer, such that said client can send a request for content to said address.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ computer program product of claim 15, wherein ~~said for resolving host names on a Virtual Private Network (VPN), the computer program product comprising a computer readable storage and a computer program embedded therein, the computer program comprising:~~

instructions for receiving a host name query from a client computer;

instructions for transmitting said host name query to a plurality of Domain Name System (DNS) servers;

instructions for acquiring at least one address associated with said host name query, from said DNS servers;

Instructions for determining that a plurality of addresses was acquired from said DNS servers;

instructions for eliminating all but one of said addresses comprise instructions for by rejecting all but the most recent address; and

instructions for returning said address to said client computer, such that said client can send a request for content to said address.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ computer program product of claim 15, wherein ~~said for resolving host names on a Virtual Private Network (VPN), the computer program product comprising a computer readable storage and a computer program embedded therein, the computer program comprising:~~

instructions for receiving a host name query from a client computer;

instructions for transmitting said host name query to a plurality of Domain Name System (DNS) servers;

instructions for acquiring at least one address associated with said host name query, from said DNS servers;

instructions for determining that a plurality of addresses was acquired from said DNS servers;

instructions for eliminating all but one of said addresses comprise

~~instructions for by~~ rejecting all addresses not provided by a service provider DNS server, and

instructions for returning said address to said client computer, such that said client can send a request for content to said address.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ computer program product for resolving host names, the computer program product comprising a computer readable storage and a computer program embedded therein, the computer program comprising: of claim 13, ~~wherein said instructions for returning comprise:~~

instructions for receiving a host name query from a client computer;

instructions for simultaneously transmitting said host name query to a plurality of Domain Name System (DNS) servers;

instructions for determining that whether a host has not been located by said DNS servers;

if a host is located, instructions for returning an address for the host to said client computer;

if a host is not located, instructions for performing a search using said host name query as a search string; and

Instructions for transmitting an address of where results of said search can be viewed to said client computer.

19. (Original) The computer program product of claim 18, wherein said instructions for performing comprise instructions for sending said host name query as a search string to a search engine.

20. (Original) The computer program product of claim 19, wherein said instructions for sending further comprise instructions for sending said host name query as a search string to a search engine selected by a service provider.

21. (Original) The computer program product of claim 19, wherein said instructions for sending further comprise instructions for sending said host name query as a search string to a search engine selected by a system administrator.

22. (Original) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein said instructions for returning step further comprise:

Instructions for searching a cache for an address associated with said host name query; and

instructions for returning a located address to said client, such that said client computer can send a request for content to said address.

23. (Original) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein said instructions for returning further comprise:

instructions for searching a cache based on said host name query;

instructions for returning cached content associated with said host name query to said client computer, such that said client can display said content.

24. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein ~~said modem is coupled to a VPN (Virtual Private Network), and~~ at least one of said plurality of DNS servers forms part of the VPN.

25. (New) A computer implemented method for resolving host names on a network, comprising:

receiving at a modem a host name query from a client computer;

transmitting said host name query from said modem to a plurality of Domain Name System (DNS) servers;

determining whether a host has not been located by said DNS servers;

if a host is located, returning at least one address for the host to said client computer;

if a host is not located, performing a search using said host name query as a search string and returning a results address of where results of said search are located to said client computer.

26. (New) The computer implemented method of claim 25, wherein said performing further comprises sending said host name query as a search string to a search engine.

27. (New) The computer implemented method of claim 25, wherein if a plurality of hosts associated with said host name query are returned from said DNS servers;
applying a policy to eliminate all but one of said hosts; and
returning an address for said one host to said client computer, such
that said client can send a request for content to said address.